

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 SAJ-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 DOTE-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04

FPC-01 RSR-01 /202 W

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R 161000Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5401

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG JA UR US

SUBJ: SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT: YAKUTSK NATURAL GAS

REF TOKYO 8905

1. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN JAPANESE AND SOVIETS ON YAKUTSK GAS HAVE APPARENTLY NOT GONE AS SMOOTHLY AS MANAGING DIRECTOR OF TOKYO GAS, TAKEO MURAKAMI, PREDICTED REFTEL. FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT SIGNED AS EXPECTED ON JULY 13; INSTEAD, TALKS HAVE CONTINUED JULY 16, WITH COMMUNIQUE APPARENTLY TO BE ISSUED JULY 17.O

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE IN MITSUBISHI CORP WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN TALKS, JAPANESE AND SOVIETS HAVE DISAGREED ON TWO MAJOR POINTS: 1) SOVIETS ARE NOT HAPPY WITH JAPANESE OFFER OF 100 PERCENT TIED LOANS (SUPPLIERS' CREDITS) AND WANT SMALL PORTION TO BE UNRESTRICTED CREDITS, (2) JAPANESE EXIMBANK REPORTEDLY WILLING TO OFFER ONLY
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AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO EXTENSION OF CREDITS, PENDING

RECEIPT OF LIST OF PRODUCTS WHICH SOVIETS WANT TO PURCHASE. SOVIETS WANT FIRM COMMITMENT AT CURRENT MEETING TO EXTENSION OF \$60-75 MILLION IN CREDITS. ANYTHING LESS, SOVIETS HAVE REPORTEDLY MAINTAINED, WOULD REPRESENT NO PROGRESS BEYOND PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED JAPANESE DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE IN YAKUTSK DEVELOPMENT.

3. CLOSED DOOR SESSION BETWEEN ANZAI, CHAIRMAN OF NATURAL GAS SUBCOMMITTEE OF JAPAN-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMITTEE AND SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER OSIPOV IS REPORTEDLY SCHEDULED FOR LATE AFTERNOON JULY 16 TO TRY TO WORK OUT DIFFERENCES PRIOR SCHEDULED SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTURE JULY 17.
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